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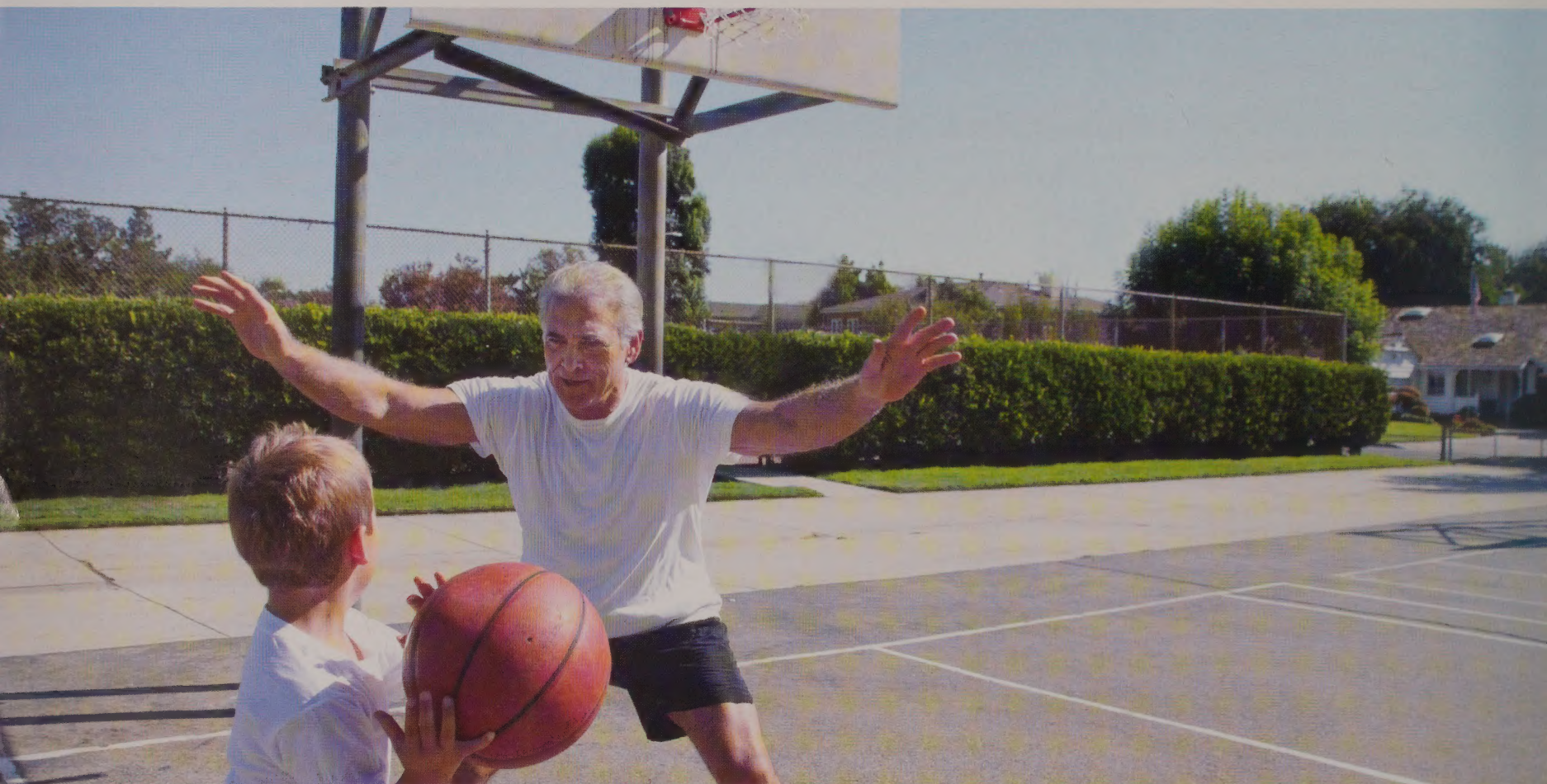
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January 6, 2017

Art by Curt Hoppe

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ON THE WATERFRONT
Westhampton Beach | \$3,500,000
 A jewel of a location. 5 bedrooms with a separate master suite, open living area with fireplace, country kitchen, finished basement. Pool, boat dock and water views featuring nature at its finest. Web# H46141
Allen Piliero C: 631.335.1996



UNIQUE COMMERCIAL PROPERTY
East Hampton | \$3,500,000
 Currently a restaurant and one of the few designated night clubs in the Hamptons. 5,000 sf which accommodates a 100-seat restaurant and a night club/lounge. Web# H09623
Robert Kohr C: 631.871.8774
Lori MacGarva C: 516.242.9633



OPEN HOUSE FRI. 1/6, SAT. 1/7 & SUN. 1/8 | 12-1:30PM | 68 South Country Road, Westhampton
\$2,650,000 | Open floor plan new construction overlooks river. 4/5 bedrooms, 4.5 baths, saltwater pool, pool house. Web# H51143
Mary Logan Binder C: 631.972.8772
Constance Porto C: 917.731.4317



BAY VIEW PERFECTION
Amagansett | \$3,500,000 | Elegant 5-bedroom, 4-bath home sits on 1.4 acres and backs up to preserve. Heated Gunite pool, indoor Jacuzzi, chef's kitchen, 2 free-standing stone fireplaces, terraces and balconies, and 2-car garage. Web# H48034
Lili Elsis C: 631.433.0099



BRIDGEHAMPTON FARMHOUSE
Bridgehampton | \$3,600,000
 Farmhouse with an open kitchen located on almost 1 acre 4-Bedrooms, 4.5-baths. Extensive total renovation. Located in the heart of Bridgehampton Village. Web# H39877
Steven Halsey C: 631.521.6790



SOUTHAMPTON NORTH
Southampton | \$1,895,000
 Charming country home with great light and mature landscaping. This home features 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, media room and a new kitchen. Web# H52005
Erica Grossman O: 631.204.2723
Linn Turecamo O: 631.204.2769



SOUTH OF THE HIGHWAY
Westhampton | \$1,995,000
 Postmodern one level home. Open living area, gourmet kitchen, master bedroom suite and 3 additional bedrooms, cozy den. Bluestone patio, covered porch, heated pool, cul-de-sac. Web# H45111
Jon Holderer C: 917.848.7624



POSTMODERN DREAM HOME
Southampton | \$2,350,000
 Postmodern 4-bedroom, 4.5-bath home fully updated with elegant details. Enjoy the oversized front porch, patios or the heated Gunite saltwater pool. Web# H18277
Darra Goldstein O: 631.204.2765
Oona Cree O: 631.204.2773



NEW CONSTRUCTION
Sag Harbor | \$2,495,000
 Just outside Sag Harbor Village this 5-bedroom, 5-bath home has 2-story paneled entrance, double-height family room with shiplap ceiling. Heated saltwater Gunite pool. Web# H44066
Matt Austin C: 917.922.6733



SOUTH OF THE HIGHWAY
Bridgehampton | \$2,495,000
 In the heart of Bridgehampton Village is this mid-century with warm contemporary vibe. Living room with a wood-burning fireplace and walls of glass. Heated Gunite pool. Web# H49858
Patrick McLaughlin C: 917.359.4138



NEWLY LISTED IN HITHER HILLS
Montauk | \$1,299,000 | Spacious 4-bedroom, 3-bath home in coveted Hither Hills. Sun-filled living with fireplace, open kitchen, dining area, and sliders to expansive decking. Hither Hills private beach rights. Web# H51325
Mary Lappin Marmorowski C: 631.433.4412



OPEN HOUSE SAT. 1/7 | 12-1:30PM
15 Peters Path, East Hampton
\$1,475,000 | STYLISH RENOVATION EAST HAMPTON 4 bedrooms 3 brand new baths, new kitchen, new front porch, heating and CAC system, new 20x40 Gunite pool, irrigated lawn. Finished basement, Quiet Beach Community. Web# H35833
Lori Barbaria C: 516.702.5649
lbarbaria@elliman.com



INVESTMENT WITH TENNIS
Southampton | \$1,695,000
 Rare opportunity to own a beautiful 6-bedroom, 5.5-bath Contemporary on 1.6 acres with heated pool and tennis court. Web# H54744
Michaela Keszler O: 631.204.2743
Luisa Keszler O: 631.204.2758



WATER VIEW CONTEMPORARY
Westhampton | \$1,849,000 | Water view, 5-bedroom Contemporary located south of the highway in the estate section. This retreat is spacious and on 1.4 acres, located on a cul-de-sac with pool and tennis. Web# H0155300
Jeanne Lee Landsiedel C: 631.678.2454



SURROUNDED BY RESERVE
Wainscott | \$1,895,000 | On 4 acres, surrounded by almost 200 acres, offering the ultimate in privacy. 4 bedrooms (2 en suite) and 3 baths, also, there is an open great room with fireplace all on one level. Heated pool and hot tub. Web# H54372
William Wolff C: 917.549.0617



OPEN HOUSE SAT. 1/7 & SUN. 1/8 | 12-1:30PM | 136 Washington Heights, Hampton Bays | \$449,000
 Beautiful high-end renovation. 2-bedroom, 2-bath beach house just down the road from beautiful Peconic Beach. Web# H46616
Constance Porto C: 917.731.4317
Carol Pugliese C: 631.566.2138



NEW LISTING IN WHB
Westhampton Beach | \$524,999
 This cottage is for you. 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, eat-in kitchen, living room, bay window, large wood deck. The level property provides room for expansion. Web# H49470
Joyce Flynn C: 516.633.9546



RENOVATED SPRINGS SALTBOX
East Hampton | \$615,000 | On a .62 acres with 1,600 sf of living space. Cathedral ceilings, wood-burning fireplace and massive windows for a light-filled entertaining area. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. Web# H55287
James Keogh O: 631.267.7341

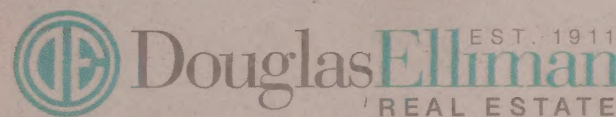


ECLECTIC 1810 HOME UPDATED
Water Mill | \$999,999
 Traditional split level home offers 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, living room, den, sitting room with fireplaces, master suite with bath, artist studio. Web# H20255
Codi Garcete C: 516.381.1031



PARADISE ON TIANA BAY
Hampton Bays | \$1,195,000 | Over 240 ft of new bulkheaded waterfront with a private boat ramp. Floating dock and heated pool. 3,000 sf home boasts 4 bedrooms, each with its own bath and a west wing, ideal for guests. Web# H34169
Todd Bourgard C: 631.875.9667

For a complete list of properties, visit elliman.com



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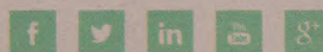
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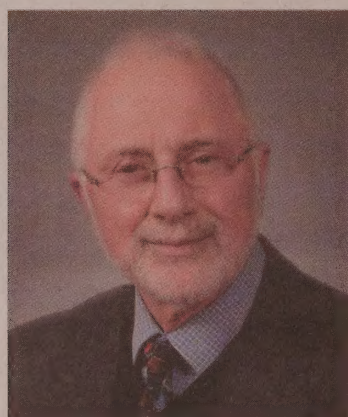
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VOLUME LVII NUMBER 41

Dan's Papers

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JANUARY 6, 2017



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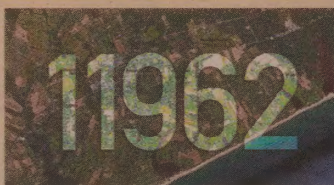
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HAPPY NEW YEAR

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Dan's Papers LLC, is a division of Manhattan Media, publishers of AVENUE magazine, New York Family and producers of The New York Baby Show.

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72 Madison Ave, 11th Floor,
New York, NY 10016
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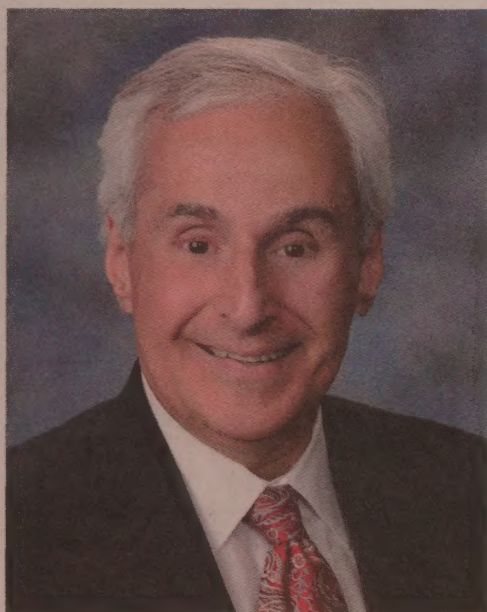
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Dan's Papers was founded in 1960 by Dan Rattiner and is the first free resort newspaper in America.
For questions about delivery, please email Delivery@DansPapers.com or call 631-725-8201.

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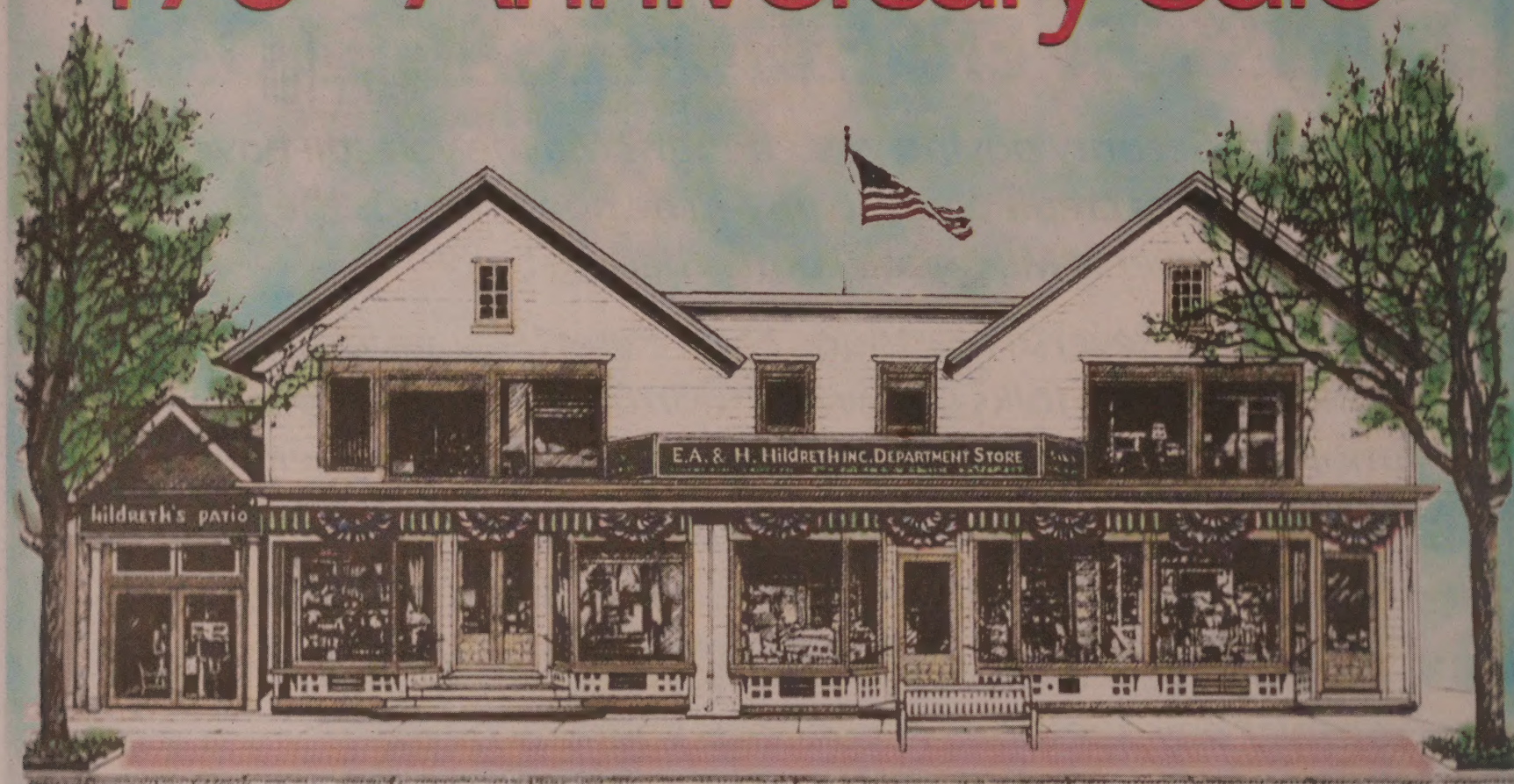


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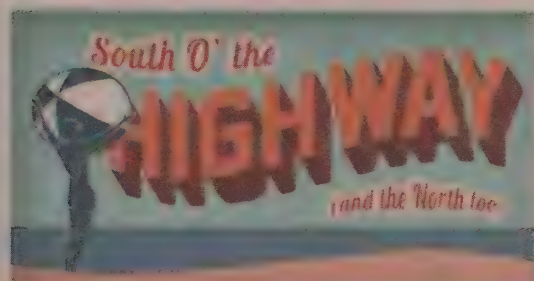
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In his final Madison Square Garden performance of 2016, Hamptons "Piano Man" **Billy Joel** paid tribute to the Sag Harbor Cinema, whose lobby was destroyed in a fire on December 16. *The New York Times* also honored the beloved Main Street mainstay with an article about its history and legacy, written by **William Neuman**, in the paper's December 18 issue. A fundraiser for the Sag Harbor Fire Department will be held this Sunday, January 8, at Page at 63 Main in Sag Harbor from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. There will be a cash bar and requested donations of "whatever your wallet will permit your heart to donate." This is a great opportunity to thank and support the men and women who battled the December fire and saved Main Street. Funds raised will be used to help people in the community who have suffered a loss. For more information, please call Page at 631-725-1810. Donations may also be sent to: Sag Harbor Fire Department, P.O. Box 182, Sag Harbor, NY 11963. See related Sag Harbor story on page 24.

Nancy Atlas returns to the Bay Street Theater in Sag Harbor this Saturday, January 7, for the first of her 2017 Fireside Sessions presented by Dan's Papers. This week's special guest is trombonist **Clark Gayton**, and, yes, tickets sold out. You can view photos of the concert at DansPapers.com on Monday. Next week Atlas welcomes back super funky keyboardist **Danny Kean**. The legendary **Village People** play the Suffolk Theater in Riverhead on Friday, January 13. At press time, a few tickets remained for these fabulous shows...

Big screen news: Amagansett's **Scarlett Johansson** topped *Forbes* magazine's recently released list of highest-grossing actors. Johansson's films, led by *Captain America*, earned \$1.2 billion in ticket sales in 2016. Director **Alex Gibney** was honored at the Hamptons Take 2 Documentary Film Festival at Bay Street Theater in Sag Harbor last month. Gibney, who has directed 28 documentaries, including the Oscar-winning *Taxi to the Dark Side*, was presented with a Career Achievement Award during a gala at Bay Street. (See photos on page 13.) Happy birthday, **Steven Spielberg**! The South Fork's favorite director turned 70 on December 18. Spielberg celebrated the occasion with **David Geffen**, who hosted a party aboard his 280-foot yacht in the Bahamas. Guests included **Martin Short** and **J.J. Abrams**. **Huma Abedin**, a top aide for former Secretary of State **Hillary Clinton**, spent the holidays in the Hamptons. Among other outings, Abedin and her four-year-old son visited the UA Southampton 4 Theatres to see the animated film *Sing*.

(Continued on page 14)

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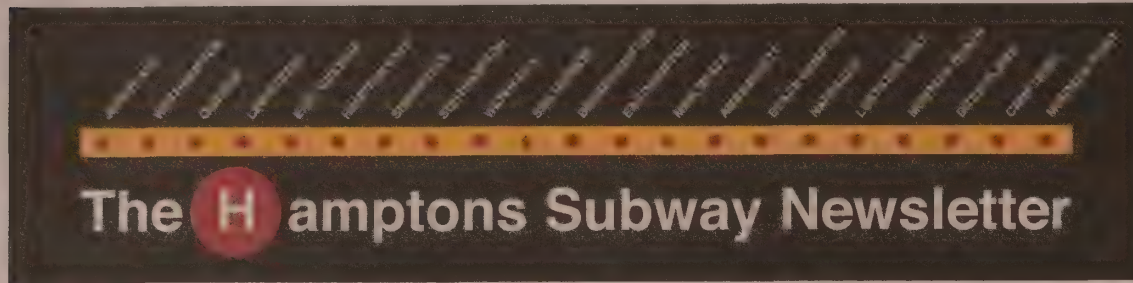
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52868

"Along with the New York Subway System, Hamptons Subway is the only underground transit system in the State of New York."



BY DAN RATTINER

Week of January 5–11, 2017
Riders this past week: 12,412
Rider miles this past week: 88,411

DOWN IN THE TUBE

Barack Obama was seen on the Hamptons Subway this past Monday at midnight. The only person in the car, he stood alone, in silence, in the center of that car holding onto the overhead rail, staring out the window at the passing lights of the tunnel without moving the entire time, as the train hurtled from Southampton to Amagansett.

MORNING AFTER

At 6 a.m. on the morning after New Year's Eve we found the usual array of people lying on the platforms in their party hats, all asleep and smiling. There were empty beer cans and Champagne bottles everywhere. Budweiser, Miller and Coors seemed to be favorites this year, Coors more than the others. Piper was a favorite among the Champagne empties. There

also seemed to be more balloons and glittery confetti than usual, though, and when the trains came into the stations for the first time that morning, you could hear the balloons popping on the tracks as the trains ran them over. No people were down on the tracks, same as last year and the year before, thank goodness.

LIGHT SWITCHES

To conserve electricity, help save the planet and lighten Hamptons Subway's wallet, Commissioner Aspinall ordered that on/off light switches be installed at each end of the platform walls. When the Subway system shuts for the night at 2 a.m., these switches turn the lights in the tunnels off. To avoid favoritism, the light switches will be at both ends of every station platform, so Southampton won't say East Hampton gets it and they don't. Also, the switches at each platform will turn the lights off in every tunnel with just that one flick. Finally, in a bow to the children of the Hamptons, the switches will be low on the walls, about three feet up, so even a six-year-old (with a parent to guide them, of course) can flick

the subway tunnel lights off at the appropriate time. So it's kind of a game. Whichever kid gets there first.

HAMPTONS SUBWAY EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

Every month for years and years, Hamptons Subway officials honored the Employee of the Month. The practice was discontinued in November of 2014, after that horrific system-wide, four-and-a-half-hour delay with that raccoon family that refused to move. I'm sure you recall that. Anyway, beginning now, for January, we are reviving this practice by honoring Alicia Frankenfactor, the chief turnstile inspector for her years of service. Ms. Frankenfactor is from Shirley and more recently Hampton Bays, after her marriage to Bob Bush, the electrician who lives and works in that town. It's her second and his third marriage. As a special honor, we declare her Employee of the Months (it's plural!) bridging the period December 2014 to January 2017 to keep continuity in the trophy room where the plaques honoring each Employee of the Month are hung on the walls there.

COMMISSIONER ASPINALL'S MESSAGE

My pledge to you is that this year will be so much better on the subway than last year, with all its problems. Remember the time last summer when, hearing loud music, we unlocked a storeroom door to discover it was secretly being used as a discotheque? Wasn't that something! 🐼

Read more Hamptons Subway columns online at DansPapers.com.

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WAITING IN VAIN

Police responded Friday to complaints in Sag Harbor of a man loitering in front of the now vacant lot where the entrance to the Sag Harbor Cinema used to be, before it was destroyed by fire. According to Hamptons Police spokesman Larry Hirsch, the complaints police received alleged that the man had been standing in front of the cordoned-off area continuously for at least two days. "It was pretty chilly," says Hirsch, "and this guy didn't even go away at night. We don't really know how he did it." While his continuous presence in the area raised suspicions among the police and the general population, Hirsch observed that the man appeared to be calm and did not harass anyone on the street. Nevertheless, police took the precaution of questioning the man, and discovered to their surprise that he was, in fact, waiting in line for movie tickets. "The gentleman was obviously aware that the theater was not currently operational," says Hirsch, "but he apparently wanted to be the first in line for tickets when it reopens. Not only does he love the place, but he figured a lot of hoopla would surround the reopening of

the Sag Harbor Cinema, and he wanted to be in on it." While the police appreciated the man's commitment to his goal, they were eventually able to get him to leave by persuading him that the theater might not reopen for quite a long time, and that he might die of exposure waiting for that day to come.

POLARIZING FIGURE

Participants in a New Year's Day Polar Bear Plunge event on a beach in Montauk were alarmed to find that they were joined on the beach by what appeared to be several actual polar bears. As the three large animals appeared from behind some dunes and made their way slowly and menacingly towards the large group of people awaiting the plunge, animal control officers of the Hamptons Police force were notified by panicked calls. When the officers arrived, bringing stun guns loaded with powerful animal tranquilizers, they quickly took charge of the area and began evacuating terrified plungers. Meanwhile, highly trained bear snipers positioned atop the dunes took aim at the furry intruders and shot each one full of bear-strength Valium. However, when the officers approached the now motionless bears, it was discovered that they were actually guys dressed up in polar bear suits. "It appears that some jokesters thought they would play a trick on the polar plungers," says Hamptons Police spokesman Larry Hirsch. "In the end, they wound up taking a long nap on the beach." The annual Polar Bear Plunge proceeded as planned. 🐼

Read more Blotter online at DansPapers.com.

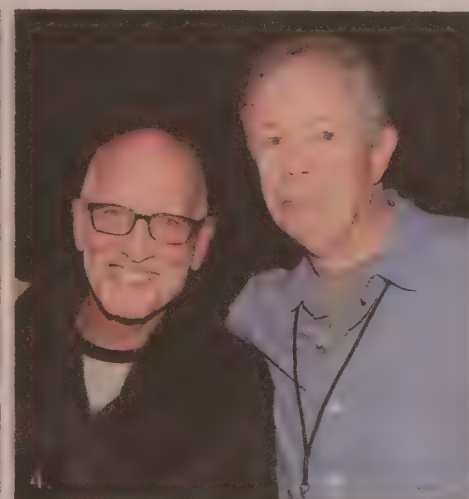
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This is the Hamptons!

PAGE 27

Hamptons Take 2 Documentary Film Fest in Sag Harbor

The annual Hamptons Take 2 Documentary Film Festival screened an array of outstanding docs December 1 – 4 at the Bay Street Theater. Director Alex Gibney was honored for his work and presented with a Career Achievement Award at the annual gala. **Photographs by Barbara Lassen**



1. Eric Striffler, Kate Gilroy
2. Alex Gibney
3. Halsted Welles, film producer Jason Weinberg
4. Jonathan Glynn, founder and president of Wings Over Haiti, and Richard Salter
5. Peter Rosen, Lana Jockel
6. Film Choice Award Recipient Catherine Tambini, HT2FF board member Karen Arikian, director of Nadia Comaneci Pola Rapaport

2016 Polar Bear Plunge in Southampton

The 2016 Polar Bear Plunge to benefit Human Resources of the Hamptons once again dove in at Coopers Beach in Southampton on December 10. **Photographs by Ron Esposito**



Judy Rose and Polar Bear



Richard and Laine Yastrzemski



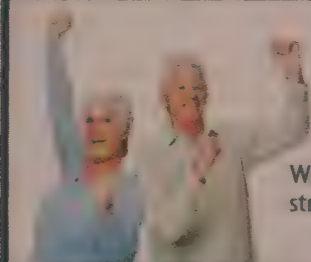
Michael and Catherine Paez



George Hughes



Jimmy Mack and Brian Mott



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(Continued from page 11)

Small screen news: East Hamptonite **Katie Couric** joined Water Mill's **Matt Lauer** on NBC's *Today* show this week. Couric resumed her news-desk duties while the show's regular co-host, **Savannah Guthrie**, is on maternity leave. Couric was a popular *Today* co-anchor from 1991 until 2006, when she left to host *CBS Evening News*. Amagansett's **Alec Baldwin** has signed on to play a hard-hitting prosecutor in a new TV series based on *Crooked Brooklyn*, a 2015 book by **Jerry Schmetterer** and **Michael Vecchione**. As the show enters production, Baldwin continues to portray President-elect **Donald Trump** on *Saturday Night Live*. Congratulations, **Ellen Pompeo**! The Sag Harbor resident and *Grey's Anatomy* star recently welcomed son **Eli Christopher** into her growing family. Pompeo and husband **Chris Ivery** are also parents to seven-year-old **Stella Luna** and two-year-old **Sienna May**. The Hamptons was featured in the third season of *Younger*, a TV Land hit starring Broadway's **Sutton Foster**, **Hilary Duff** and East Hampton's **Peter Hermann**. In the South Fork-focused episode, the show's main characters attend the fictional Hamptons Book Fair in Amagansett. Congratulations, **LuAnn de Lesseps**! The South Fork regular and star of Bravo's *Real Housewives of New York City* wed businessman **Tom D'Agostino** in a ceremony in Palm Beach, Florida on New Year's Eve. *Housewives* co-stars **Jill Zarin** and **Dorinda Medley** attended the event, which was not filmed for the reality show...

"Dan's memoirs are like Dan's Newspapers: charming, whimsical, and filled with insightful knowledge of the East End." — **Walter Isaacson**, author of *Steve Jobs*

STILL IN THE HAMPTONS

More Tales of the Rich, the Famous, and the Rest of Us

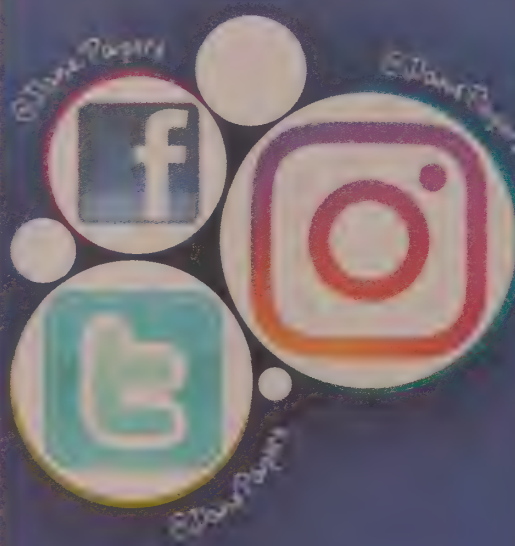


DAN RATTINER

FOUNDER AND EDITOR OF DAN'S PAPERS
AUTHOR OF IN THE HAMPTONS AND IN THE HAMPTONS TOO

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East Hampton's Guild Hall has named five recipients of the 2017 Guild House Artist-in-Resident (AIR) spring program to run March 11 through May 7. Members of the Guild Hall Academy of the Arts selected residents via an open application. This year's Academy of the Arts Selection Committee included **Paul Goldberger**, architectural critic and educator; **Ralph Gibson**, photographer; **Stephen Hamilton**, actor/director; and **Dava Sobel**, science writer/novelist. The Residents were selected from 131 online applications from the U.S., Australia, Canada, Germany, Iran, Ireland, Russia, Singapore, Sudan, and the United Kingdom. Guild House AIR Coordinator **Marianna Levine** and Academy President, **Eric Fischl** oversaw the application process. "The Guild House AIR was founded in 2016 as a tenet of Guild Hall's mission to nurture, cultivate, and celebrate the artistic spirit of the East End of Long Island," says **Andrea Grover**, Executive Director of Guild Hall. "Guild House AIR encourages the next generation to contribute to the area's rich creative legacy by bringing emerging artists to the region and providing a foundation for individual development." The 2017 Guild House Artist-in-Residence Fellows are: **Lucia Davis**, a resident (Continued on page 24)



Predictions for 2017

Hillary, Robots, Pop-Up Stores, the YMCA & the Electoral College

BY DAN RATTINER

The Pulitzer Prize for Poetry, announced in April, is awarded to Hillary Clinton, who since her defeat in November has written some of the most astonishing poems ever put on paper. "It rivals Shakespeare," one judge comments to the media after the award is made.

Vladimir Putin and Donald Trump hold a secret meeting in Iceland immediately after the inauguration. Because they are left alone, it is not clear exactly what happened, but after a preliminary handshake and kind words, those in the next room say things apparently went rapidly downhill. When lamps and dishes in their meeting room are heard being thrown around, the advisors rush in to see both of them rolling around the floor, fighting. Both are bleeding and they have to be separated. Putin says the problems lay with the interpreter. Trump says this means war. The Magic Marker and globe, which were the centerpieces of the meeting, are thrown in a dumpster.

After the fight, Congress votes to impeach Donald Trump because it turns out he has lied about his hair. In the fight, his hairpiece flew off, and he's bald. When Trump shows up for

the hearing with his hair back in place, however, the impeachment is voted down by a wide margin.

Congress wrestles with the idea of abolishing the Electoral College. Both Republicans and Democrats are for it. In the end, a compromise is worked out. The next President of the United States will be whoever is declared the winner of *America's Got Talent* for the year 2020.

A new law is passed that will allow college graduates to work off half their college loans by teaching high school graduates what they know. In the end, the total owed remains the same—but the loans have now been spread among both the old and the new graduates—and, in the end, there are 10 times as many new students now bearing college degrees, each only having to pay one-tenth the loan.

Warren Buffet, one of this country's richest man, buys up the mansions of the richest 10 people in the Hamptons, moves all their houses to one very large parcel in Southampton and then rents their houses back to them.

Donald Trump has his staff draft a bill that would repeal the "one term only" law, thus allowing him to be eligible to run for a second

term. Congress throws the bill back to Trump's staff, saying it is a "two term only" limit law, and his staff revises it to allow a legal third term.


It is discovered that by putting canvas sails on eastern Long Island's antique wood-shingled windmills, there is enough power to run all of Long Island.

The residents of East Hampton, Bridgehampton and Southampton feel so bad about the big fire in Sag Harbor that they each build identical bright red neon "Sag Harbor" signs and erect them in the center of each town with a blinking arrow underneath pointing toward Sag Harbor Village.

Aliens from outer space land in Texas and, before taking off, present the human race with a gift. Nobody can figure out what it is or does. It seems to be some kind of espresso maker.

East Hampton Airport is shut down by the town and made into an animal preserve, but planes and helicopters continue to land there anyway, saying that's where the airport is, like it or not. One night, all the animals in the preserve get together and rip apart all the aircraft parked there and eat the pieces.

(Continued on next page)

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Predictions (Continued from previous page)

A Silicon Valley firm develops a device that can plug into the back of a television set to make all shows on it appear as virtual reality. The device only works with old black-and-white televisions, however, so there is a rush to buy them.

A restored version of the black-and-white movie *Casablanca* becomes the first virtual reality film to win an Academy Award. The whole country falls in love with the performance of Ingrid Bergman.

The New York Giants and the New York Jets football teams play a game against each other to win the first annual NY Metro Bowl trophy, but neither offensive team can score. Instead, defenses keep pushing the offenses back into their own end zones for safeties. The final score is 8 to 8.

Offshore turbines harnessing the wind begin to power much of the East and West Coasts, but they are quickly shut down by an executive order from Donald Trump, who says wind power does not provide enough income for the members of his cabinet to live in the styles to which they have become accustomed.

Google unleashes 500,000 robots with sledgehammers that go out across America to smash up all cars that need to be driven by human beings.

The Museum of Modern Art in New York decides to purchase the entire collection of *Dan's Papers* glossy covers that have been painted by regional artists. The collection, which numbers 1,437 paintings since 1987, will be on permanent display in New York City in a new wing being built for that purpose.

The first meeting of the Trump administration's new cabinet has to be rescheduled after everyone sits down and it is noticed that whatever is said comes out entirely in Spanish.

After the discovery that bankers at Wells Fargo have created fictitious checking accounts for their customers without their knowledge, it is learned that all the money in these accounts has vanished.

Donald Trump hires the Army Corps of Engineers to build the wall across the border with Mexico, only to find that, after a year, its faulty concrete has begun to crack and crumble.

Southampton Village passes a law against pop-up stores. No new pop-up stores are allowed to be created and those that are now up have been grandfathered in and so must remain.

The National Football League announces that next year, action will be stopped immediately after each play so all participants on the field can be evaluated immediately for concussion symptoms.

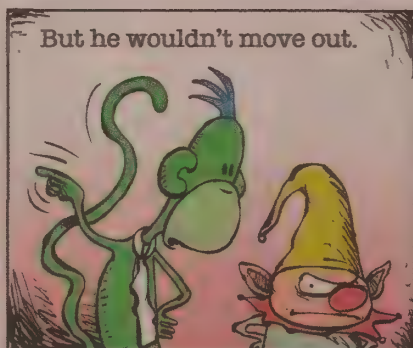
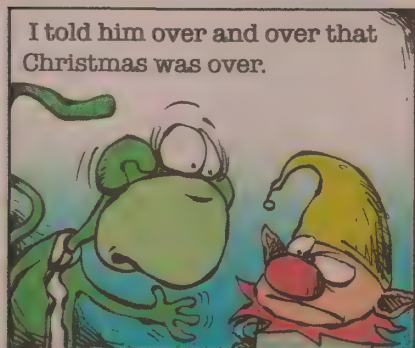
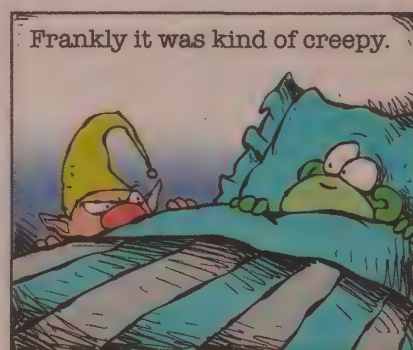
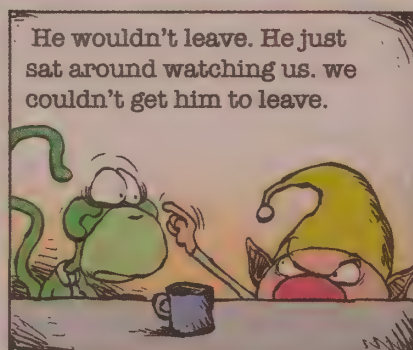
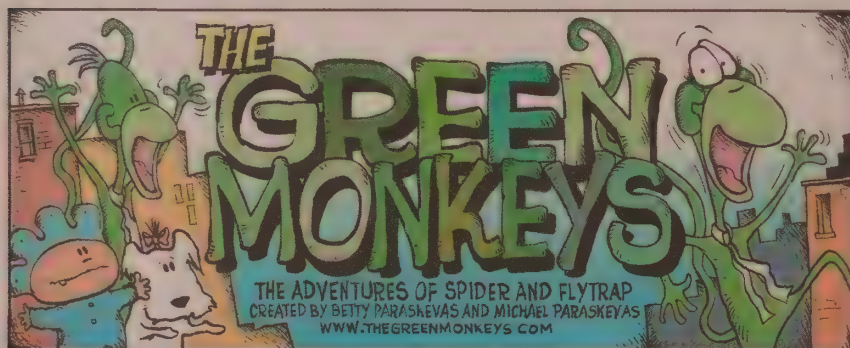
In East Hampton a man is arrested after a stand of wild Asian bamboo on his property had sneaked underground one night to his neighbor's house and eaten their dog.

All the countries that compose the European Union decide to separate, however, due to a clerical error, France gets the peseta, Belgium the lira, Hungary the mark and Portugal the drachma. People complain, but after a while just get used to it. Nobody knows what happened to the guilders.

A group of summer people living on Lily Pond Lane in East Hampton decide to have workmen link up all their swimming pools so they can meet everyone in the neighborhood.

The United States constructs a new island in the South China Sea, builds a 40-story hotel on it called Trump Palace, a dock and runway and surrounds this complex with anti-aircraft guns. Late in the year, the Chinese appear and begin construction on a new island in the Caribbean. President Trump says it will also have a Trump Palace on it, called Trump Palace West with the one in the South China Sea now known as Trump Palace East.

The Trump Administration tries to solve the North and South Korea problem by playing the song "YMCA" over loud speakers on both sides of the border in the hopes that everyone will join in. 🐸



WEALTHY PEOPLE YOU MIGHT NOT KNOW:



\$\$\$\$\$

The Richest Man in the Hamptons Brought Out of the Shadows

BY DAN RATTINER

Who is the richest man in the Hamptons? Some say it is former Mayor Michael Bloomberg. Others say it is Revlon's Ron Perelman or Blackstone's Steven Schwarzman or industrialist Ira Rennert.

It may come as a surprise to you, but the richest man by far is a man you never heard of because he has been completely under the radar, until now. He has his fortune in real estate and owns bigger houses and more of them than Perelman or Rennert or Bloomberg or Schwarzman put together, even accounting for the value of all the other businesses they participate in. It is time the truth be told.

This man is a direct descendant of a Lebanese man who came to America four generations ago. It was 1888, and at Ellis Island where he and all the other immigrants had to sign documents as they passed through, he gave his name to the official there: "Accountability." It was a strange name. In Lebanese Arabic, it meant "honest man" in the banking business with high ambition and trustworthiness. At Ellis Island, however, the elder Mr. Accountability had a bad cold from his time on the boat. And so, the clerk on the island, hurrying everybody through, wrote Mr. Accountability's name as "Liability," something that neither Mr. Accountability nor his wife noticed until the ferry docked on the Lower East Side and ushered them ashore with but 10 Lebanese spigots in their pockets and the clothes on their backs.

In Lebanon, the Accountability family had been well known and beloved for a thousand

years in the banking business. But in 1886, a well-known swindler had swindled the current Mr. Accountability out of his bank. And so, that year, he had nothing for the soldiers on horseback who came to collect the taxes. As a result, they fled to America. And here they were welcomed. "Give Us Your Tired, Your Poor, Your Downtrodden..." the Lady said.

Mr. Liability started a pushcart business on Mott Street. Soon he had 10 pushcarts. Then he bought a tenement building and then another and another. Pretty soon he had almost as many buildings as the big Rockefeller and Woolworth, Morgan, Vanderbilts and Astors of that age. They looked down at him, though. For example, everyone in his immediate family called him Leonard, which was his real first name. He had been Leonard Accountability. Now, in New York City, the other builders condescendingly took to calling him by a disparaging nickname: "Limited." The name stuck.

Mr. Limited Liability went bust during the Great Depression. But his son, Limited Liability Jr., had by that time, been handed off the growing business at the last minute. And so, to get out of town, so to speak, Liability Jr. and his teenage son Limited Liability III came out to the Hamptons in 1936 to try to prosper here. Limited Liability III was expected to take over the family business, but he died at the hands of the Japanese at Corregidor in the Philippines in 1942. And so the family fortune fell to Liability IV and then to the present-day Limited Liability, so named after the founder of the fortune, that very loving and popular man who prospered here off the boat.

Today, the family fortune, all in the real estate business here, is staggering. There are an estimated 50,000 homes and other properties here in the Hamptons, many for just a few dollars. A careful study of the tax rolls in East Hampton and Southampton by *Dan's Papers* shows that upward of 20,000 of these properties, 4 out of every 10 homes is owned by Limited Liability, his wife or one of his many children, all of whom use the name Limited Liability in one form or another. (They use LLC for example, or LTD or INC.) Or to put it another way, if you taped all 50,000 real estate tax bills to a wall and, blindfolded, threw a dart at it, the chances are nearly half you'd hit one of Limited Liabilities' home tax bills. Or still another way, if the average property here were valued \$2 million each, the total value of the Limited Liability holdings would exceed \$40 billion, an extraordinary sum.

The Liabilities, who take their religion very seriously, pray five times a day, are good neighbors to everybody and live modestly and humbly in a small three-bedroom house on a residential street in East Quogue. Mrs. Liability, who answered the door when we knocked at 2784 Big Pines Drive, told us that yes, that was them, but that both she and her husband would prefer not to be interviewed for this story.

We wish them all the best, which has indeed been a stunning rise to wealth and fortune over the years, and will respect their wishes to never write about them. They deserve their privacy. Well earned. By the way, they drive a 2008 grey Prius. You can see it parked in their driveway as you pass by. 🚗

Boxer Bernard Hopkins Loses to an East Ender & Retires

BY DAN RATTINER

An East Ender named Joe Smith Jr. knocked out legendary prizefighter Bernard Hopkins last week. It happened in the eighth round. Smith backed Hopkins into a corner and hit him six unanswered blows to the head, the last of which sent Hopkins backwards through the ropes and down onto the floor outside the ring, where he landed on his head. Hopkins got up and didn't seem too disoriented, though. Certainly, he had to know he had to get back into the ring. But he didn't do it. Instead, he told people where he'd landed he'd been pushed out of the ring and hurt his ankle and so couldn't box. The video, however, shows punches sent him out of the ring. As for the referee, looking down, he counted him out.

Joe Smith Jr. was handpicked for this fight by Hopkins. Hopkins said it would be his last fight. He has been a champion many times over, and wanted to end his career with a victory. On the other hand, he didn't want to pick anybody easy. Smith packs a powerful punch and has knocked out almost everybody he's faced in 23 fights, but he hasn't ventured far from New York to fight very often. He would be perfect for Hopkins, a skilled tactical boxer, to dance around, peck away at and win a decision.

Smith works as a union laborer—jackhammer, ditch digger—and lives with his wife and daughter in Shirley, the blue-collar town halfway between Patchogue and Westhampton Beach. He celebrated his victory that night



WBC International light heavyweight champion, Joe Smith Jr.



Images Courtesy Star Boxing

with some of his friends who belong to the union. In his last fight, he knocked out Andrzej Fonfara, a far less skilled boxer than Hopkins but one who was holding the WBC International Championship belt as a light heavyweight.

Most prizefighters retire when they get to their early 30s. A few fight after 40. Hopkins, who appeared to be in prime physical condition for this fight, is 51 years old and has won numerous championships with his classic skills. Half his wins came by knockout. With prizefighters, knockout power is usually the first thing that

goes when you get to be over 35.

For the first three rounds, Hopkins's timing seemed off, too. Most people watching thought Smith, 27, won them. But in the fourth and fifth, Hopkins got the range and it looked as if it could be a beautiful dance to victory.

In the sixth, however, he simply ran out of gas. It was quite apparent, and it ended in the eighth. After the fight, he praised Smith and said to fans, "I look like I probably still can fight, but I can't."

Joe Smith Jr. has fame and fortune in front of him. Go get 'em, Joe, we're rootin' for ya. 🐾

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History is preserved in many iconic Hampton structures, including the five East Hampton windmills.

Town Icons

P.T. Barnum, Long Wharf, Carl Yastrzemski, but No Teddy Roosevelt

BY DAN RATTINER

While the huge, red neon “Sag Harbor” sign is currently missing from downtown because of the big fire there, it has got me thinking about how important certain images and people are to a village. Sag Harbor honors John Steinbeck, Long Wharf, whaling and the big red Art Deco movie sign. We all miss it. It was saved from the fire, though, and will be put back up someday.

In my opinion, one of Montauk’s images is also currently missing. Montauk’s images are its lighthouse and President Teddy Roosevelt. A robust, athletic man devoted to fitness, patriotism and nature, Roosevelt spent a long-ago summer here on horseback with his band of Rough Riders. Today, it’s a summer vacation spot full of surfers, fishermen, golfers, tennis players, horsemen and windsurfers. Fittingly, Roosevelt had his name on Montauk’s 1,157-acre public park—it was the Theodore Roosevelt County Park. But then, in 2014, they removed his name. It’s now just the Suffolk County Park at Montauk. I don’t know why.

Westhampton Beach is famous for its experience of the huge Hurricane of 1938 and perhaps its most famous visitor, P.T. Barnum. East Hampton is a town of six old English wood shingled windmills and its founder, Lion Gardiner. Southampton honors wealthy old Cornelius Vanderbilt and a former slave, Pyrrhus Concer. And Bridgehampton celebrates

its famous racecar heritage and baseball hall of famer Carl Yastrzemski.

Bridgehampton is also the home of the Killer Bees. That’s the name of the Bridgehampton High School basketball team that has won nine State championships in the last 38 years.

I wonder if the name Killer Bees will survive. We live in a politically correct age. This is an age when school mascot images—often drawings of vicious animals—are being torn up out of gymnasium floors to be replaced by drawings of more friendly animals. This is an age when we honor and protect endangered species.

Here is a school mascot—a stinging bee which has been declared an invasive species and which can also cause blindness and death to children if stung but which dies in the process of stinging—a poster bee for at least three politically correct action groups.

But the team keeps WINNING! And that’s everything.

I recently read that the University of Oregon voted to prevent any building at that school from either being named or re-named in politically incorrect ways.

“[People who have expressed] discriminatory, racist, homophobic or misogynist views that actively promoted systematic oppression” or “failed to take redemptive action [shall not have their names affixed to buildings]” the Oregon guidelines now read.

“There’s a real risk that would catch up anyone alive before 1950,” said John Fabian

Witt, a historian at Yale, who is on a committee considering the erasure of long-ago Senator John C. Calhoun’s name from any school, building or sidewalk at Yale. Calhoun graduated Yale in 1804 and was an ardent supporter of slavery. And of course, he owned slaves himself. One of the colleges at Yale is called Calhoun College in his honor. For the moment, anyway.

The material above I read in an article in *The New York Times* about Yale’s recent efforts in that regard.

“Change the Name—and Quickly” headlined the *Yale Daily News* when the controversy about Calhoun’s name and the college there was brought to the attention of the administration.

The administration, however, announced it would study the matter, and they continue to study it. Last year they formed a committee. Historians are on it, faculty is on it. A preliminary report was issued last month, not about Calhoun yet, but about policy.

We mustn’t behave in an “Orwellian” way, the report says. History must not be altered. Those presenting a name must present a dossier of the person’s life and explain why the good outweighs the bad.

They’ll be studying this for years.

Damn those liberals. They just study everything to death and do nothing. Oops. I shouldn’t have written that.

Well, Teddy Roosevelt was not a slaveholder. But he did kill endangered animals on safari in Africa. It’s up to Montauk. 🐾

This Week's Cover Artist: Curt Hoppe

BY BRIAN CUDZILO

HONORING THE ARTIST



If this week's cover art looks kind of like a photograph, you're not 100% incorrect. This week's cover artist, Curt Hoppe, is a realist painter who often works directly from photographs he's taken. Born in Minnesota, Hoppe moved to New York in 1968, eventually taking up residence in Manhattan's

Lower East Side, where he immersed himself in the burgeoning arts culture.

His work has captured everything from the Punk music scene and roller derby queens to the Hamptons, all in stunning detail. This week's cover is one of many Hamptons scenes Hoppe, who admits he doesn't make it out to the East End as much as he'd like to nowadays, has captured over the years. His other Hamptons work includes paintings of the old bowling alley in East Hampton, Sip'n Soda in Southampton and two paintings of the Sag Harbor Cinema. We reached out to Hoppe recently to check in and see what he is up to.

What projects are you currently working on?

For the last five years or so, I've been working on a series of about 20 portraits of some of my friends from the last 40 years in New York. I'm just finishing that up and am really looking forward to getting that out.

Who are some of the people you've painted in this series?

James Chance from James Chance and the Contortions. Patti Astor. John Holmstrom who started *Punk* magazine. Richard Hamildon, Robin Winters. Arturo Vega, the artistic director for the Ramones who invented their iconic logo. Those are some of them.

You were involved in the 2004 effort to save the original neon Sag Harbor sign, right?

I was. Brenda Siemer helped organize that. I had a series of prints at the Wallace Gallery. I helped raise around \$20,000 with those pieces.

Do you have any opinion on what should happen with the space the theater occupied?

I'd like to see a theater go back. But the times are changing and I don't know what the developers would want to do. I could go off on a whole gentrification rant, but whatever they do, I hope they keep the feel of Sag Harbor. I hope it's something befitting the town, something that keeps the character. It's a beautiful village.

Is there one piece of advice or wisdom you've received from another artist that you've always remembered?

Not that I received directly, but Bob Dylan's line from *It's All Over Now, Baby Blue*: "Strike another match go start anew." It's very apropos right now, in regards to the cinema, too. You have to move on and do different things.



The original is owned by collector Daniel Farash of East Hampton

With rising rents and the overall gentrification going on in the city, do you think New York City is still the place to be for an aspiring artist?

Yes. It's more expensive, yes, and a little bit tougher to make it. But New York is still the art capital of the world. There's also a lot of other artists, opportunities, and, of course, galleries.

Is there somewhere your work is on display right now?

I have some work up at the *Hey! Ho! Let's Go: Ramones and the Birth of Punk* show. It just finished up at the Queens Museum in New York but is going on at the Grammy Museum in Los Angeles until February 28. And there's more work to see at curthoppe.com. 🐾

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FRIDAY, JANUARY 13

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SATURDAY, JANUARY 14

VILLAGE PEOPLE
FRIDAY, JANUARY 13

ASSOCIATION
FRIDAY, JANUARY 20

Garole King's Tapestry & More
SATURDAY, JANUARY 14

RONNIE SPECTOR
SATURDAY, JANUARY 14

THE FABULOUS RONNETTES
SATURDAY, JANUARY 14

ALL THE HITS!
SATURDAY, JANUARY 14

MILLION DOLLAR QUARTET
SATURDAY, JANUARY 14

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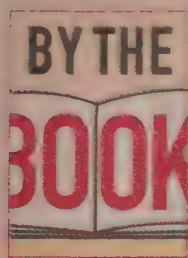


ROSS SCHOOL



"Clancys of Queens" a Delight to Read

BY STACY DERMONT



Looking for the right novel to enjoy fireside in the Hamptons this winter? Look no further. Tara Clancy's debut has it all—humor, fascinating characters, glimpses into radically different lifestyles, intergenerational strife and celebration, insightful

Hamptons references—and hope, lotsa hope.

The Clancys of Queens, A Memoir (Crown, 2016), recalls the author's earliest years in Queens and Brooklyn and her childhood weekends in Bridgehampton in intimate and startling detail. Who else could remember so much about the interior of a limo that drove them from Queens to Bridgehampton when they were five years old? Only this Irish-Italian American, Catholic only child.

As a youngster, Clancy is clearly very bright. But her social set doesn't necessarily reward kids who listen to Tom Waits or read *King Lear* with approval or encouragement. She is considered really weird. She credits her every success in life to her experiences of having far-flung philosophical discussions, "the moon and the stars talks," with a kindly self-made millionaire (referred to only as "Mark") at his Bridgehampton estate.

Colin Powell was a Bridgehampton neighbor to her mother's rich boyfriend Mark. But

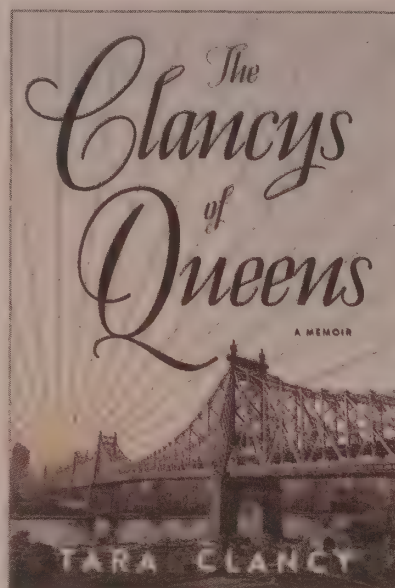
the young Clancy wasn't interested in bold face names. Bridgehampton's Caldor (now K-Mart) held all the treasures she could desire, like a plastic kiddie pool; and the East End countryside offered extreme adventure like "stealing" potatoes from Grace Talmadge's field.

Clancy is proud of her New York accent and her culture. She often points out in interviews that the last popular book written by a working class New York woman was *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn* by Betty Smith, 73 years ago. So she "gave it a whirl."

Clancy's Italian grandfather reminds readers that "all work is honorable," even clipping your grandmother's toenails. And this book teaches. It contains many colorful answers to questions. In fact, the press material sent out with review copies includes a Q & A with Clancy that features this exchange:

"Q. How did leading a dual lifestyle, shuttling between blue-collar Queens and the excessive wealth of the Hamptons, influence your personality and your values?"

A. Short, maybe a bit sappy, answer: At a young age I learned that a Queens basement party is as much fun as a poolside



Hamptons mansion party, as long as you're with the right people. And I haven't ever lost that lesson—I care about who I'm partying with, not where."

(Q. Who knew that the wealth of the Hamptons is "excessive?")

A bartender well known to fans of *The Moth Radio Hour*, both as a featured storyteller and a host, Clancy includes some of that material in this book. Many listeners will recognize the tale of her accidentally being left behind the counter of an S&M shop at 14 and her coming out to her father at a faux alpine village in Georgia at 19.

Escaping the many threats and pitfalls of poverty, which include teenage pregnancy, alcohol and hip-hop fashion, our heroine, now in her late 30s, enjoys a settled family life in New York. She says that her next book is to be titled *The Clancys of Manhattan*, a memoir about her married life with two sons. She's come a long way from the little girl who slept on a shared pull-out couch in an old boat shed in Broad Channel. She is no longer just one of "the girls who blew up the lab" in Catholic school. This rich memoir reminds the reader that we are all many people. 🐾

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(Continued from page 14)

of Greenport and founder of The Art Bus Project, a nonprofit organization and mobile exhibit that provides access to art to communities across the country. **Tanya Gabrielian** was hailed by *The London Times* as a “pianist of powerful physical and imaginative muscle.” **Lydia Hicks** has had her wildlife photography published in *National Geographic*. Her cinematography has premiered at Sundance. A traveling filmmaker, Hicks’s contributions have taken her across the United States, and to South Africa, Ecuador and Qatar. **Judson Merrill**’s work has appeared in, or is forthcoming in, *The Iowa Review*, *The Southampton Review*, *Unstuck*, *McSweeney’s Internet Tendency*, *Used Furniture Review* and other publications. **Walter Price** was born in Macon, Georgia and now lives and works in Brooklyn, New York. After serving in the U.S. Navy from 2007 through 2011, he enrolled in Middle Georgia College and then went on to study at the Art Institute of Washington where he received his B.A.

The writing life: East End regular **Jane G. Goldberg, PhD.** has just released her eighth book, *My Mother, My Daughter, My Self* (Free Association Books). It is the culmination of Dr. Goldberg’s lifelong search to discover and unravel the complexities of what it means to have a mother, and what it means to be a mother. Dr. Goldberg is the founder of three holistic health centers in Manhattan and Puerto Rico, including Manhattan’s first mind/body facility, La Casa Spa & Wellness Center. **Thierry Gelormini** of Le Charlot restaurants in Southampton and New York has just released another of his entertaining *Le Charlot Journals*. With history lessons, amusing French quips, cartoons and activities for kids a reader might lose sight of the fact that it also contains the Le Charlot menu—probably the only menu around that features a Pet of the Month!

Where they dine: The owners of Zigmund’s, the pop up bar that took over the former Fresh Hamptons space on the Bridgehampton–Sag Harbor Turnpike in July have announced that it will close on Sunday, January 15. The bar was the most recent project for restaurant duo **Jason Weiner** and **Eric Lemonides**, who also own Almond in Bridgehampton and two restaurants in Manhattan. “The owner of the building, who is a buddy of ours, had an opening for a season before a more permanent tenant moved in, so we said ‘let’s open a bar!’ It’s been a blast, but we are now moving on to bigger projects,” says Lemonides. The duo has another project on the horizon for the 2017 season, soon

to be announced. “We are looking forward to rounding out the season in the next two weeks with live music, karaoke and our signature Retro Sounds on Saturday,” Lemonides added. Suffolk Theater Director **Daniel Binderman** crossed ye olde canal to dine at the Bridgehampton Inn with friends just before Chanukah. He went gaga for the Horseradish Mashed Potatoes. (See related story on page 29.) Power couple editor **Suzanne Rafer** and bestselling author **Danny Peary** enjoyed an early New Year’s Eve dinner at Page 63 in Sag Harbor. Even they couldn’t get seats at the 9 p.m. seating, which featured live music by **Joe Lauro’s Moondogs!**

American railway historian, and longtime friend to *Dan’s Papers*, Ron Ziel, passed away in Tucson, AZ on December 15 at age 77. His work lives on in the book that he wrote with George Foster in 1965, *Steel Rails to the Sunrise*. His vast photographic collection is housed in the Archives at Queens Library. In 2005 Ziel moved from his longtime home in Water Mill to Tucson. Farewell, old friend.

George Skidmore, owner of Skidmore’s Sports and Styles in Hampton Bays and well known in the Hampton Bays community for his work in various youth athletic leagues, including the local Little League, died on January 2 at the Westhampton Care Center. He was 80.

Read more *South O’ the Highway* daily at DansPapers.com

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A NEW YEAR FOR ART

What's playing at
Bay Street this year?

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

ART EVENTS

Openings, closings
see and be seen.

Bay Street's 2017 Mainstage Season!

BY LEE MEYER

Theatergoers are in for another summer of exciting original work, contemporary favorites and beloved classics at Bay Street Theater in Sag Harbor.

First up is *The Man in the Ceiling*, a new musical by East Ender Jules Feiffer. The play, with music by Andrew Lipka and directed by another East Ender, *Hamilton* producer Jeffrey Seller, adapts Feiffer's children's book of the same name. In this musical comedy, running from May 30–June 25, Jimmy Jibbett wants to be an artist, but has to deal with being a disappointment to his father, daydreaming during school and getting better on the ball field.

Feiffer told *Dan's Papers* in 2016, "The 'thing' of the play is what everyone deals with from the time they're young. I'm still dealing with it—how to deal with your creative needs in a world that is often indifferent to them or misunderstands them...and how to just go on going on." *The Man in the Ceiling* had a reading at the 2016 Bay Street Theater's New Works Festival. Artistic Director Scott Schwartz saw the potential immediately. "This is the first time we're doing a full production of a reading we did," he says. "Sitting in the packed house and hearing this new work by Jules Feiffer and Andrew Lipka... everyone walked out saying, 'when are we going to see a full production?'"

Schwartz directs the second production of the season, *Intimate Apparel*, running July 4–30. Written by

Pulitzer Prize winner Lynn Nottage, *Intimate Apparel* tells the story of Esther Mills, an African American seamstress who makes lingerie for society ladies and "ladies of the night." The successful but lonely Esther has complicated friendships with the different women in her life, finds love with a Caribbean laborer working on the Panama Canal and makes an unusual friend in a Hasidic shopkeeper who shares his fabrics with her. "It's a play I have loved since it premiered," says Schwartz. "I saw the original production and it really made a big impact on me. I like the period [in which] it's set, in 1905. It's a little about immigration and I thought, at this time, it would be interesting to do a show that represented [current issues]. There are strong parallels in our contemporary society for minority groups."

The season concludes with the William Shakespeare comedy *As You Like It*, directed by Tony Award winner John Doyle, running August 8–September 3. In *As You Like It*, Rosalind flees persecution in her uncle's court to the Forest of Arden with her cousin, Celia. Some of Shakespeare's most famous passages are in *As You Like It*; audiences will no doubt recognize "All the world's a stage!" This show is a co-production with Classic



Artistic Director Scott Schwartz

Stage Company in Manhattan.

Schwartz is excited to bring the Bard to the main stage. "The audience we've been building is ready to see a fresh new take on a classic," he says. "We've done our free readings for two years of Shakespeare outdoors, and I've always wanted to do a [Shakespeare play] on the main stage. John Doyle, the Tony-winning director, as an artist I think is unparalleled. He and I got to know [each other] a little bit last year and started talking about Bay Street and Classic Stage collaborating. There are going

to be actors playing instruments, and the set will be really fun and summery and almost immersive for the audience.

"The thing I've been so excited about this season is that we have really stellar artists," Schwartz says. "Between Jules Feiffer, Andrew Lipka and Lynn Nottage and then to have John Doyle—and I suppose Mr. Shakespeare, as well—I feel what we've been doing at Bay Street is bringing the top artists working in the theater to Sag Harbor."

Bay Street Theater and Sag Harbor Center for the Arts is located at 1 Bay Street, Sag Harbor. For tickets, subscriptions and more information, call 631-725-9500 or visit baystreet.org.

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Finding the Right Hamptons Fireplace

BY JORDAN GREEN

Your best bet to keep warm and chic on the East End is to install a fireplace. Not only do fireplaces provide relief from the chills, but they also have aesthetic value that can complete the look of a cozy living room, porch or outdoor arrangement.

"Depending on the fireplace itself, it adds a substantial amount to a home," says Bill Serocki, owner of Brick Fix Stone & Fireplace in Center Moriches. "If you had two of the same homes, and one had a fireplace and one didn't, the home with a fireplace would be worth more."

Serocki says that the highest quality fireplaces are American or Canadian made. The three main options customers can choose from when shopping for a fireplace are gas, wood-burning and electric. Each type caters to different tastes.

"Electric is geared towards someone who wants simplicity and cost effectiveness," Serocki says, while "gas is becoming more popular because it's convenient. In the Hamptons, brick chimneys with log sets are still the most common, though they are harder to find in regular residential areas."

However, the newest en vogue trend is linear fireplaces. These gas fireplaces are rectangular in shape, extend horizontally across a wall, and come in any length or style.

"Linear fireplaces are the big thing right now in the Hamptons," Serocki says. "If you go into the new houses that they're building, you start to see a lot of contemporary design elements come into the houses that have a more traditional Hamptons beach house or even Colonial-era look. A lot of people choose linear for that contemporary touch."

The design isn't the only element of linear fireplaces that embodies modernity. They are some

of the most technologically advanced fireplaces on the market, built with LED changing lights and cool glass technology that allows you to touch the glass while the fire is going.

A fire inside will surely provide warmth for your home, but there's nothing like sitting around a fire while enjoying the fresh outdoor air. For those looking to spark an outdoor flame, there's an abundance of fireplaces and fire pits to choose from.

An outdoor fire adds a unique ambience, says Pete Vella of Ace Chimney Experts in Ronkonkoma. "It makes the backyard feel more like a welcome area where you would want to entertain people. It's a great thing to have on those winter nights where it is a bit chilly but you still want to spend some time outside."

Both a fireplace and fire pit can get the job done, but choosing between the two is a matter of cost, space and individual preference.

"A fire pit is cheaper and easier to install," says Vella. "It generally is set into the ground, whereas an outdoor fireplace has a chimney built into it so the smoke goes above everyone's face. It's more comfortable if you have a lot of people sitting around it. An advantage of a fire pit is that everyone can sit around it, but with a fireplace, you only have a 180-degree view of the flames."

If you choose a portable fire pit, be mindful that some may not be able to last year-round outside. In that case, storing them in a garage or covering them is the best way to ensure they'll be safe from harmful weather. For built-in fire pits, a simple waterproof cover should do. Vella notes that eventual maintenance will be required for both built-in fire pits and outdoor fireplaces as the masonry wears.

Whether you're looking for an indoor or outdoor

fire, there are a wide variety of choices and price ranges. Thus, it's essential to do some research to ensure that you choose a fireplace that's right for you and your home. With the explosion of online shopping, many have turned to the internet to purchase fireplaces.

"It's hard to compete with some of the pricing online," Vella says, "but I think you get a more well-rounded experience when you have a local company do the installation. If there are any issues with it, the installer is only one phone call away."

Serocki says that searching the web is a great place to start, but when it's time to choose and install a fireplace, you need to go to a physical store to see it in person and to discuss details with an expert.

"The reason you want to shop in a store is because you want to have the security that the fireplace is installed correctly and that it doesn't void the warranty," Serocki says. "Also, by coming to a store, you can discuss sizing and venting the fireplace properly."

Manufacturers often void the warranty if the fireplace is bought online, thus leaving homeowners to foot the bill if something were to go wrong. Serocki says that those who bought their fireplace exclusively through the internet have come to him with all kinds of troubles.

"A lot of people buy online and then call us anyway because they either have an issue or can't install it," Serocki says. "We see a lot of people that buy online then have a contractor install it and it's horrendous. It's a fire hazard, or it wasn't installed correctly, those are the things that we see."

Nothing lightens up a room and keeps you warmer than a good fireplace. If you're thinking about getting one for your home, act now before the cold weather deepens! ❄️

CALENDAR

For more events happening this week, check out:

Kids' Calendar below

FRIDAY, JANUARY 6

NOFO NEIGHBORS AT SANNINO VINEYARD

11 a.m.–7 p.m. Show a North Fork ID and get a complimentary tasting and discount. Winemaker Anthony Sannino discusses viticulture and oenology at 5 p.m. Sannino Vineyard, 1375 Peconic Lane, Peconic. 631-734-8282 sanninovineyard.com

FILM FEST FRIDAYS AT JOHN JERMAIN LIBRARY

1 p.m. The film is a surprise each week. John Jermain Memorial Library, 201 Main Street, Sag Harbor. 631-725-0049 johnjermain.org

SMOKIN' HOT TUNES AT TOWNLINE BBQ

5 p.m. Junkyard Farmer performs. Townline BBQ, 3593 Townline Road, Sagaponack. 631-537-2271

SATURDAY, JANUARY 7

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP FOR ADULTS AT SOFO

10 a.m. Enjoy coffee/tea and pastries at this first meeting, where a book will be decided upon. South Fork Natural History Museum, 377 Bridgehampton-Sag Harbor Turnpike, Bridgehampton. 631-537-9735 sofo.org

THE MET: LIVE IN HD – VERDI'S "NABUCCO"

1 p.m. Screening of live broadcast. Guild Hall, 158 Main Street, East Hampton. 631-324-0806 guildhall.org

FUNDRAISER PAINT NIGHT

6 p.m. Raise money for the Southampton Animal Shelter while creating a fun painting and sipping a glass of wine. LeRose Dance Company, 202 Montauk Highway. lerosedancecompany.com

KID CALENDAR

For more events happening this week, check out:

Calendar above

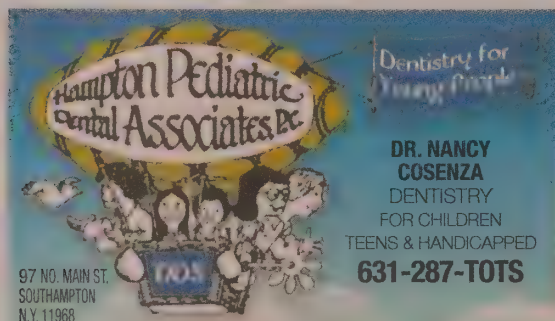
THURSDAY, JANUARY 5

STORYTIME AT THE QUOGUE LIBRARY

11–11:45 a.m. Storytime with books, songs and a craft at the end! Registration required. Quogue Library, 90 Quogue Street, Quogue. 631-653-4884 quoguelibrary.org

NATIONAL BIRD DAY AT THE QUOGUE LIBRARY

11 a.m.–noon. For children 3 and up. Make bird feeders and learn about our feathered friends. Quogue Library, 90 Quogue Street, Quogue. 631-653-4884 quoguelibrary.org



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LEE GLANTZ AT THE AMERICAN HOTEL

6:30 p.m. Live music by pianist Lee Glantz. The American Hotel, 45 Main Street, Sag Harbor.

SCREENING: "TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD"

7 p.m. Alec Baldwin hosts. Presented by Hamptons International Film Festival. Guild Hall, 158 Main Street, East Hampton. 631-324-0806 guildhall.org

FIRESIDE SESSIONS WITH NANCY ATLAS AND FRIENDS

8 p.m. Nancy Atlas performs with Clark Gayton. Presented by Dan's Papers. Bay Street Theater, 1 Bay Street, Sag Harbor. 631-725-9500 baystreet.org. *This event is sold out.*

SUNDAY, JANUARY 8

"BIRDS OF A FEATHER" AT SIRENS' SONG GALLERY

Noon–6 p.m. An exhibit of contemporary limited edition etchings of birds. The Sirens' Song Gallery, 516 Main Street, Greenport. 631-477-1021 sirensongallery.com

DOCENT-LED GALLERY TOUR

2 p.m. Highlighting the permanent collection on Wednesdays and Sundays. Tours last one hour. Parrish Art Museum, 279 Montauk Highway, Water Mill. 631-283-2118 parrishart.org

FIRE DEPARTMENT FUNDRAISER

5 p.m. – 7 p.m. A "thank-you" fundraiser honoring the Sag Harbor Fire Department in the wake of the Sag Harbor Cinema fire. Cash bar and requested donation. 63 Main Street, Sag Harbor. 631-725-1810

MONDAY, JANUARY 9

MONDAY NIGHT PAINT AT TOWNLINE BBQ

6:30 p.m. Step-by-step instructions, painting materials provided. Townline BBQ, 3593 Townline Road, Sagaponack. saltycanvashamptons.com

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11

DOCENT-LED GALLERY TOUR AT PARRISH ART MUSEUM

2 p.m. Highlighting the permanent collection on

TEEN MOVIE NIGHT AT RIVERHEAD FREE LIBRARY

3:30 p.m. Screening of *Suicide Squad*. Riverhead Free Library, 330 Court Street, Riverhead. 631-727-3228 riverheadlibrary.org

ACT TWO TEEN COMMUNITY THEATER

6 p.m. Teens grades 8–12. Classes in performing and theater writing. Hampton Bays Community Center, 25 Ponquogue Avenue, Hampton Bays. 631-702-2421 southamptontownny.gov

FRIDAY, JANUARY 6

CRAFTERNOON AT RIVERHEAD FREE LIBRARY

4 p.m. Drop in and make a fun new craft. Riverhead Free Library, 330 Court Street, Riverhead. 631-727-3228 riverheadlibrary.org

SATURDAY, JANUARY 7

CHINESE NEW YEAR: FOODS & LEGENDS

11 a.m.–noon. Starlight from Garden Fresh Sauce will give a cooking demonstration about the Chinese New Year. Quogue Library, 90 Quogue Street, Quogue. 631-653-4884 quoguelibrary.org

BOOK READING AND SIGNING AT QUOGUE WILDLIFE REFUGE

11 a.m. Long Island teen author Yasmine Hamdi will read her book *Spirit of the Wind*. Quogue Wildlife Refuge, 3 Old Country Road, Quogue. 631-653-4771

SUNDAY, JANUARY 8

HOT COCOA KITCHEN AT JOHN JERMAIN LIBRARY

2 p.m. For ages 8–12. Experiment with different ingredients and make the ultimate hot cocoa. John Jermain Library, 201 Main Street, Sag Harbor. 631-725-0049 johnjermain.org

MONDAY, JANUARY 9

YOUTH AT SOUTHAMPTON TOWN JUSTICE COURT

6 p.m. Learn about the justice system and



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EAST END OPRY AT ZIGMUND'S BAR

7 p.m. Live music at Zigmund's Bar, 203, Bridgehampton-Sag Harbor Turnpike, Bridgehampton. 631-919-5340

THURSDAY, JANUARY 12

THE JAM SESSION AT BAY BURGER

7 p.m. Live jazz, recorded live for WPPB 88.3FM. Bay Burger, 1749 Sag Harbor Turnpike, Sag Harbor. 631-899-3915 thejamsession.org

KARAOKE NIGHT AT ZIGMUND'S BAR

8 p.m. Zigmund's Bar, 203, Bridgehampton-Sag Harbor Turnpike, Bridgehampton. 631-919-5340

FRIDAY, JANUARY 13

THE VILLAGE PEOPLE AT SUFFOLK THEATER

8 p.m. The beloved music group performs. Suffolk Theater, 118 East Main Street, Riverhead. 631-727-4343 suffolktheater.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

FIRESIDE SESSIONS WITH NANCY ATLAS AND FRIENDS

1/14, 8 p.m. Nancy Atlas performs with Danny Kean. Presented by Dan's Papers. Bay Street Theater, 1 Bay Street, Sag Harbor. 631-725-9500 baystreet.org

For more information and to submit your event online go to Events.DansPapers.com. Events submitted by noon Friday will be considered for the print calendar.



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earn community service credits. Southampton Town Justice Court, 32 Jackson Avenue, Hampton Bays. 631-702-2425 southamptontownny.gov/youthbureau

TUESDAY, JANUARY 10

LEGO CLUB AT JOHN JERMAIN LIBRARY

3:30 p.m. Kids can enjoy Lego building. John Jermain Library, 201 Main Street, Sag Harbor. 631-725-0049 johnjermain.org

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11

BARBIE BONANZA AT JOHN JERMAIN MEMORIAL LIBRARY

3:30 p.m. Girls and boys can enjoy playing with Barbie. John Jermain Library, 201 Main Street, Sag Harbor. 631-725-0049 johnjermain.org

THURSDAY, JANUARY 12

STORYTIME AT THE QUOGUE LIBRARY

11–11:45 a.m. Storytime with books, songs and a craft at the end! Registration required. Quogue Library, 90 Quogue Street, Quogue. 631-653-4884 quoguelibrary.org

ACT TWO TEEN COMMUNITY THEATER

6 p.m. Teens grades 8–12. Classes in performing and theater writing. Hampton Bays Community Center, 25 Ponquogue Avenue, Hampton Bays. 631-702-2421 southamptontownny.gov

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Here They Are: The 10 Best Things I Ate in 2016!

BY STACY DERMONT

People often tell me that when they read my restaurant reviews they feel like they are right there with me, enjoying the meal. Many people comment on the relatability of my regular dining companions', "Husband" and "Teenage Boy," eating habits—picky and voracious, respectively. I didn't know how popular my "best of" food picks lists were until I didn't do one for 2016. After a week of staycation, I came back to a bunch of emails asking about the best things I ate in 2016. So here, in chronological order, is my top ten: **That Meetball Place's tzatziki sauce.** Made fresh daily, this stuff could probably make a ball of anything palatable. That Meetball Place opened in January of 2014 on Patchogue's West Main Street.

This is what I wrote about the **Soupe de poulet à l'Oriental en croûte at Pierre's** in Bridgehampton in my March restaurant review: "My soup of chicken broth, raisins, potatoes, carrots and coconut milk topped with (crunchy but delicate) puff pastry was a delight. It was very mildly curried. And Pierre's signature bowls hold quite a lot of soup." Quality, presentation, quantity, boom!

The Montauk Fishburger at Almond in Bridgehampton. Context is a lot. This burger has a pronounced fish flavor, which came as a surprise. As I wrote in my April review of Almond: "Served on a locally sourced bun with sliced tomato and raw Spanish onion, this burger of local skate and yellow fin tuna and Thimble Islands kelp hits all the marks.

Crispy on the outside, smooth and rich on the inside. Served with kim chee made in Almond's basement and their signature skins-on fries, it was a substantial meal. The kim chee is more about a rolling hit of heat than it is about a 'hot-and-run' powerhouse of heat. It should please both the kim chee maven and the kim chee novice." The Montauk Fishburger Project debuted in January of 2016. That's when an alliance of East End chefs announced its initiative to reconnect local eaters to an abundant nutritional resource being responsibly harvested from the waters off the East End. This Fishburger, which utilizes only local species of wild finfish that are rated sustainable by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association (NOAA), was created by adapting a recipe from chef Eric Ripert of Le Bernardin. The Montauk Fishburger is also on the menu at Rowdy Hall in East Hampton. I have tasted the future, it is good.

The Barley Pilaf at Ariana in Huntington. It just is. So filling, so balanced in its savory perfection. While you're there, be sure to have a cup of their signature **Mashawa!** A vegetarian soup made with mung beans, black beans, spices and herbs. Again, balance is all. Also, hot soup on a cold day is Shazamtastic.

Chef Marco Barrila's housemade Fagotini at Manna (the former Mirko's space) in Water Mill. As I noted in my October restaurant review: "These tiny pasta purses in a truffled mushroom sauce, stuffed with gorgonzola dolce, are indescribably good!"

Sometimes a dish is outstanding because it is so new and different, sometimes a dish stands out because you think "I could eat this every day."

The **Belgian Endive & Pear Salad at Le Charlot** in Southampton is of the latter type of "garden variety outstanding." I wrote in my December restaurant review: "I started with what, despite the overall high quality of the meal, was a particular standout: the Belgian Endive & Pear Salad. A beautiful study in pale—walnuts, freshly ground black pepper and arugula set against the pears, endive and Roquefort. Of course, its subtle flavors and crunch, against the bite of Roquefort, are what most endeared it to me."

Licia's Parker House Rolls from Loaves & Fishes Food Shop in Sagaponack are beyond. My grandmother taught me to make respectable Parker House rolls when I was a kid. I don't know how these babies have so much structure while remaining soft and light. I think there's a hint of rosemary, but I know that that's kosher salt on top. **Chef Brian Szostak's Quinoa Couscous at the Bridgehampton Inn.** The question: how to push quinoa past edible and into the sphere of deliciousness? Answer: add little balls of gluten! Both the flavor and the texture of this dish are exceptional!

At **Dopo La Spiaggia's** new outpost in East Hampton, in the former Race Lane space, Chef Maurizio Marfoggia offers southern Italian signature dishes, as well as new specialty items. The basic menu is the same as that of the original Sag Harbor restaurant. So I guess you could sit down in either place for the umami-amazing **cavolini**—shaved Brussels sprouts in a Caesar dressing with toasted pine nuts—as long as the sprouts are in season. As Tina Fey might say, "You want to go to there!" 🍷



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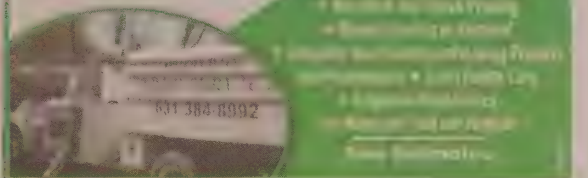
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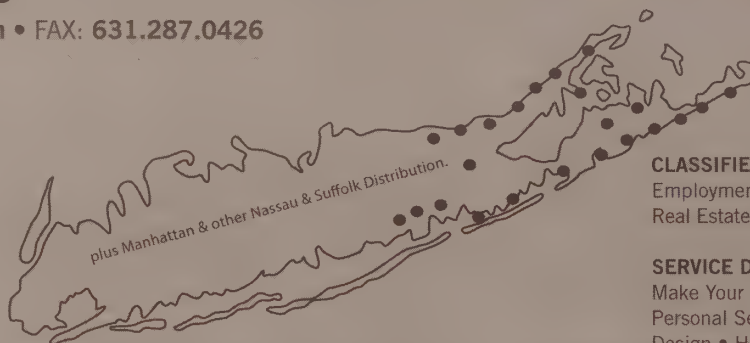
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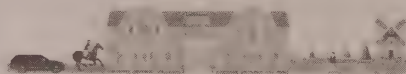


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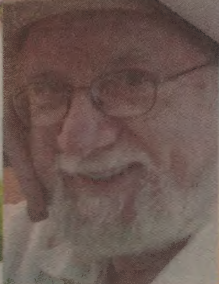
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Not in Sagaponack
this year!

Sagaponack Is America's Most Expensive ZIP

BY OLIVER PETERSON

The Hamptons held onto its luxury cred in 2016: Sagaponack has been named America's priciest ZIP code for the second consecutive year.

Earlier this month, PropertyShark.com released its annual list of the country's most expensive ZIP codes, and Sagaponack's 11962 landed on top with a median sale price of \$5.5 million. It just beat last year's runner-up, Atherton, California (94027), which had a median sale price of \$5,425,000.

In spite of maintaining the top spot on the list of most expensive ZIP codes, Sagaponack's median sale price fell 35%, according to PropertyShark.com, which is \$3 million less than last year's top median price of \$8.5 million. Atherton, on the other hand, only fell 8% from last year's median price of \$5.9 million.

New York City's 10013 ZIP code, including parts of Tribeca, SoHo and Hudson Square, moved up a spot over last year and landed in third with a median price of \$3,808,765, while the city's 10007 ZIP code, near Tribeca and the Financial District, placed sixth with a median sale price of \$3,349,657.

Other Hamptons ZIPs in the top 50 include Water Mill (11976) at number 16 with a median sale price of \$2.6 million, and Wainscott (11975) just behind it at 17 with a median price of \$2,510,000. Shelter Island Heights (11965) placed 36th with a median price of \$1.9 million, and Amagansett (11930) was 50th with a



Welcome to the priciest ZIP code in America.

median price of \$1.7 million.

Forbes annual list of America's most expensive ZIP codes showed quite different results: Sagaponack placed fourth with a median sale price of \$7,008,269, but PropertyShark.com notes that their findings

are based solely on home sales, while *Forbes* uses asking prices for homes that have not yet been sold—this shifts the balance in favor of towns with very expensive active listings, rather than what's actually sold. 🏡

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